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first started this method of writing satire in the family way. He was followed by Smollet in Humphry Clinker half a dozen years afterwards. Mr. Campbell makes a mistake about this, and gives the priority to Smollet.

The Polar Star of Entertainment and Popular Science. Vol. III. pp. 420, for the quarter ending Lady-day, 1830.—London, H. Flower.

THIS is an amusing rifacimento of travels, tales, anecdotes and tid-bits of all sorts and sizes, collected and sometimes abridged from all manner of English and American periodicals.

PERIODICAL LITERATURE.

The British Magazine for June.—London, Westley and Davis.

OUR favourite of the London Magazines still. In this No. there is a series of papers commenced on the 'Popular Authors of the Nineteenth Century,' which promises extremely well. The first is on the poetical works of the Rev. G. Croly, and it is delightfully written, in the very vein and spirit of poetical-criticism.

We wish the name of Catiline were not wrongly spelled nine times in one page. We beg of the Editor to look to his latin; he makes a sad hash of the first line of the third book of Horace. The Number presents its usual combination of good feeling and graceful writing, with general and well selected information.

The Monthly Magazine for June.—London, Whittaker.

THERE is an interesting narrative in this No. entitled Newfoundland Adventures; they seem to be authentic and are very curious. In the 'Notes of the month on affairs in general' there is a great deal of flippancy and bad taste. The late Sir Robert Peel is styled 'the old weaver'; and of his son it is said, "the young man has his purse, and we hope to live to see the day when we shall be supplicated to reinforce it with a penny, in the hands of a broken-down statesman, plying, broom in hand, at the crossing of Whitehall." This is sheer blackguardism, and worthy only of the pillory.

The Harmonicon.

THE number for the present month contains a short biography of Doctor Harrington, who was distinguished alike for his musical acquirements, (some sterling specimens of which are still extant,) and by his descent from a line of ancestry possessing deserved celebrity in the literary world. It also copies a letter addressed to the editor of the *Revue Musicale*, by a student at Naples, exhibiting a gloomy picture of the degenerate state of dramatic and church music in Italy—*sic transit gloria mundi!*—"*Chronicles of the Italian Opera in England*" commence with the season of the year 1817, in which Mozart's Don Giovanni was first produced, and end with that of 1819. The *Foreign Musical Report* gives a curious account of a concert at Vienna for a charitable purpose, in presence of the Austrian court, and in which sixteen of the male and female nobility performed the overture to Rossini's Semiramide, arranged for eight piano-fortes. This affords a striking example of the estimation in which music is

held among the higher classes in Germany; and though we have no desire that the members of our nobility should become fiddlers in an orchestra, we should far rather see them engaged in the cultivation and support of this and all the other finer arts, than in those frivolous and often vicious courses which sometimes absorb and degrade them at present.—The strictures on the Ancient Concerts are full of critical salt, and no wise complimentary to the noble directors. On the whole, however, we do not think this number even so good as the preceding one, and certainly far inferior to those which gained for the Harmonicon so high a character in the musical world, the possession of which we would fain see it deserve to retain.

ORIGINAL CORRESPONDENCE.

Paris, June 7th, 1830.

The interest connected with Egypt has induced Gagniard and Denain the booksellers to speculate upon a new and splendid edition of the History of the Scientific and Military French Expedition in that country. The first number, which has just made its appearance, contains views of Alexandria and Malta, with portraits of Buonaparte, Berthier, and Desgenettes, and an engraving of monumental antiquities. Although well got up, the charge is only five francs, which, however, will probably yield a better profit to the booksellers than 10s. 6d. would do in London, where the costs of engraving and printers' wages are double, and where also the paper is much dearer. Another very interesting work is the "Memoirs du Duc de Saint Simon," of which mention has been made in some of the London papers. As a history of the latter years of Louis XIV. one portion of these memoirs is perhaps the most faithful thing of the kind. The notice in it of the celebrated Marshal Villars is very curious. This person, although possessed of talents of the very best order, was accustomed to speak of his success in battle as arising from his good luck. In one of his letters to a friend, he says, "Even the king's enemies have some opinion of me; and I may say with truth, that up to this time I am the only general in Europe whose good fortune in war has had no check;" and in another, inculcating the importance of choosing a lucky general, he says, "If you wish to play at cards, sit down with a partner who plays luckily." Altogether, the work is an amusing one, and it is a pity that it is not better known in Great Britain, for it gives sketches of characters which are well calculated to remove the erroneous impressions which are there entertained of some of the leading persons in the political drama of the day.

Many of the *habitués* of the French opera are cast without Taglioni, who is gone to London to play for Laporte's benefit. She has a *congé* of only three weeks, in consequence of the visit of the King of Naples, before whom she is to exhibit, as it is said, in a splendid ballet to be given by the court in honour of his presence in the capital. The tongue of some scandalous persons about the opera-house, however, would lead us to believe that the restriction as to the time of her absence is not enforced by the government, but by a wealthy and powerful Russian, who lives but in her presence. I cannot pledge myself

for the truth or falsehood of this insinuation. You know, however, that opera-dancers do not enjoy here the highest possible reputation, except as to their talents in the profession. In that way she is an inimitable little creature, and justly deserves all the praise that she receives.

Miss Smithson has been playing on, with success; and she seems to be very grateful for the patronage of the Parisians. She has now, to use her own words, "wealth and fame," and she "is satisfied." It is understood that she will make a tour of the provinces when her Paris engagement is at an end. Her success in pantomime of the serious kind has induced some of the Paris managers to speculate upon pantomimic performances of the comic order, and we are told that we are to have shortly from fifteen to twenty English pantomime actors in Paris. The thing will probably be overdone.

I think I mentioned in a former letter, that it was in contemplation to form a company for the supply of water to the houses in Paris by pipes, as in London. The proposals are now published. It appears from them, that by taking a share, which is to cost 3000 francs, the owner of a house who now pays nearly 150 francs per annum for a very scanty supply of water by water-carriers, will have an abundant supply of water for eighty years to come, without any other expenditure than the first purchase of the share, the interest of which, at 4 per cent. considering the capital as sunk, would only be 120 francs. The projectors state that the total cost of laying down the pipes, &c. will be 20 millions of francs; and they hold out as inducements to subscribe, the importance of such an outlay to the laboring classes who would be employed in the works, but they say nothing of the hundreds whom the completion of the works would throw out of employment. The water-carriers, however, will have time to look forward for other occupation, and the improvement is of too great and excellent a character for such a consideration to impede its exertion. The water-carriers, of course, complain. So do the boatmen when new bridges are built; but these are complaints about narrow distress, and ought not to prevent national improvement.

There is great talk of a banquet to be given to their Sicilian Majesties by the City of Paris; the cost of it will be 150,000 francs. The Constitutionnel is quite indignant at the announcement, and says, "They forget, without doubt, that we have on the pauper list 70,000 names; that, during the last year, 227,000 persons received 1,400,000 francs toward the purchase of bread; and that the third part of the population of Paris die in the hospital. Is this," says the journalist, "a time for giving such fêtes?" The statement as to the deaths in the Paris hospitals is not much exaggerated. It is a sad fact, that among the working classes of the capital, such is either their improvidence, or wretched lot, that three-fourths die in hospitals, and are buried by charity. This is not the case, to the same extent, in any other capital of Europe.

London, June 8.

The illness of the King, who now to use a French phrase, "*touche à son terme*," is the general, I might almost say, the exclusive topic of conversation in the metropolis.—In anticipation of his death, all the Sunday newspapers